

Town of Dudley

Guide to the June 25, 2013 Override Question

The Town Police, Fire, and Highway departments, and the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District have submitted a request for a \$335,000 override question which will appear on the June 25, 2013 ballot. This fact sheet is for informational purposes only.

The \$335,000 would be distributed to the departments as follows:

- \$167,000 to the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District
- \$ 78,000 to the Dudley Fire Dept
- \$ 50,000 to the Dudley Police Dept
- \$ 40,000 to the Dudley Highway Dept

What does your vote mean to each department?

School District:

Yes: funds the Local Minimum Contribution, which is a state-mandated additional 3% assessment.

No: leaves the mandate UNFUNDED, which means the Town would have to fund it through its regular operating budget.

Police Dept:

Yes: the proposed 2014 budget cut the Police Dept budget below the current level. A "yes" vote will restore this cut so that the CURRENT staffing level can be maintained, and provide the School Resource Police officer to all of Dudley's schools. Currently, the officer is restricted to the high school. The Resource officer provides training for students on substance abuse, anti-violence, bullying, and related issues.

No: would end this program

Fire Dept:

Yes: will provide EMS coverage from 6pm to midnight. The current budget provides this coverage only through November 5th. Currently EMS coverage results in a REDUCED response time of approximately eight (8) minutes. Annually, the Dept receives approximately 220 emergency calls during these times

No: will end the evening onsite EMS coverage.

Highway Dept

Yes: maintains the current winter plowing services, traffic and road line striping, and road oiling and sealing. Road sealing and oiling extends the life of a road surface by 8-10 years.

No: will result in reduction and/or elimination of these surfaces, and delays in plowing operations.

One final note: if the override passes, the effect on the average residential property tax bill will be \$81.27 annually, or \$1.56 weekly.